



AARRC REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, September 10th, 2015

Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce, Second Floor Board Room

Board Members in Attendance: Vice Chair Carleton Collins, Stephanie Brown, Esther Cartwright, Karl Koon, Commissioner Brownie Newman, Pam Turner, Mayor Jerry Vebaun

Board Members Absent: Chair Patti Torno, Councilman Jan Davis, Joe Ferikes, George Morosani, Ricky Silver, Peter Sprague, Cindy Visnich Weeks

Staff in Attendance: Caroline Long, Stephanie Monson Dahl, Sam Powers, Shannon Tuch, Sasha Vrtunski

Guests: Helaine Greene, Mary Weber

A quorum was not established. Vice Chair Collins called the commission to order at 4:10 p.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A full quorum was not present, so the Commissioners were not able to vote on the minutes from the June meeting.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

Vice Chair Collins noted that Staff have begun working on the Annual Report and would like the Commissioners to send in photos to include in the report. The City is evaluating Board and Commission assignments and is in the process of sending letters to appointing boards regarding expiring terms.

Staff would like the Commission to determine policy recommendations to submit to City Council before their retreat in January. Vice Chair Collins gave several examples including a dilapidated buildings policy, use of City-owned land, investigating partnerships with working artists in the RAD, etc. In addition, the Commission decided to work on priority-setting during one of their next regular meetings.

SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

Planning & Design Review Committee - Vice Chair Collins noted that the Committee did not review any projects since the last Commission meeting, but they discussed expanding their advisory committee and engaging stakeholder groups who are interested in the Design Review process.

Networking Committee - Mr. Koon noted that the Committee did not meet due to the Labor Day holiday.

STAFF UPDATES

Ms. Monson Dahl gave an update on Craven Street and the new bridge along the greenway section on New Belgium's property. In October construction will begin on the French Broad River trailhead and will continue through the winter. In November there will be a public vote to choose materials for a bus stop designed by the Asheville Design Center. New Belgium will be brewing by the end of the year. City Staff

are finalizing partnerships with RiverLink and the Wildlife Resources Commission for four river access points along the French Broad.

Ms. Long gave a brief update on the Board and Commissions manual and asked the Commissioners to read the manual if they had not yet had the opportunity.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ms. Vrtunski gave an update to the Form-Based Code project and noted that City staff had just received the first draft concept for the code. She stated Staff are considering a joint meeting in the new year between the Asheville Area Riverfront Redevelopment Commission and the Planning & Zoning Commission to review the drafts. Ms. Monson Dahl stated that review will be happening in the next few months and encouraged the Commissioners to participate in the process. Ms. Tuch discussed non-conforming use and structures, and noted that staff do not currently have a standard conformity in the concept version of the code. Mr. Newman asked which non-conforming uses would be most prevalent, and Ms. Tuch noted it would likely be uncovered yards.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Crown gave an overview of the eastbound riverfront area greenways. She stated they are still in very preliminary stages of planning. She noted Highland Brewing and Friends of Connect Buncombe have raised nearly \$25,000 which is earmarked for use on this greenway.

Ms. Wong Ashburn discussed interest among local breweries to invest in greenways and create connections between communities and breweries.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Helene Green with Riverview Station stated that the City recently shared 65% plans with her business and that they were substantially different from the plans which were shared in June.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Monson Dahl noted there will be a public meeting for RADTIP on 9/24 at 4pm in Lord Auditorium at Pack Memorial Library.

October 1st is the Greenway Committee's next meeting and they will be doing a field trip to the French Broad River Greenway West at 3:30.

RiverMusic is this Friday.

Vice Chair Collins adjourned the meeting at 5:09pm